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SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM  
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

AUDIO CASSETTE: #106 A&B, Tapes 1 & 2

VIDEO CASSETTE:

INTERVIEW DATE: March 7, 1992

INTERVIEWEE: Maris Stella Sullivan

SUBJECT: Family background, career in Police Department

INTERVIEWER: Peggy Van Scoyoc, SJHM Volunteer

TRANSCRIBER: Evelyn Cannon, SJHM Volunteer

Introduction by Peggy Van Scoyoc: This is Side 1 of an interview of Stella Sullivan taking place on the grounds of the San Jose Historical Museum, San Jose, California on March 7, 1992. It's approximately noon. The interview is being conducted by myself, Peggy Van Scoyoc for the San Jose Historical Museum Oral History Program.

SS = Maris Stella Sullivan

PVS = Peggy Van Scoyoc

PVS Hi. (laughter) I'm here today interviewing Stella Sullivan and we're just going to relax and talk about your life and the history of your life, as much as you want to tell us, as much as you want to remember and share with us, we really appreciate hearing about it. First of all, I'd really like to hear about your family background, where you came from, your parents and all about your family.

SS Well, my name is Maris Stella Sullivan but because there's so much problem with Maris -- they call it

Morris, Maris, Marie, Maria, Mavis -- that I've always gone by Stella. And so I was born on June 18, 1920 in Walsenburg, Colorado and my mother's name was Mary and my father's name was Arch Knapp K-n-a-p-p and I went to school in Walsenburg, Colorado and lived in that area with my sisters, I have three older sisters. Treva is the oldest, Lee, also known as Elena, is the second and Louise is the one that's a little bit older than myself and we all lived in downtown Walsenburg, which was not a very big town, like about three or four blocks in those days although now -- it was the county seat and I went to a Catholic school there, St. Mary's; you know in those days they called it either the Catholic school or the public school -- the Protestant school is what they referred to it -- so I went to the Catholic school and I went there until about 1930 because my mother had severe heart trouble so we had to leave the mountains and we moved from the mountains, which I dearly loved even to this day, to the ocean (chuckle) and we went to Hermosa Beach and lived in Hermosa Beach for approximately one year and that I did like, Hermosa Beach. It was a very relaxed community and in fact some of our classes we held on the beach, in the afternoon it would be so hot that they'd move the class -- of course we were young in those days, you know, so it didn't matter -- and we went to the beach and had our classes, then we'd go back to school

and be dismissed (laughter). And that's where I learned to play tennis and I played tennis quite a lot in my lifetime, in fact, even when I go by a tennis court now and I see it empty it upsets me because we had so few tennis courts; in those days we played at McKesto(?) Park and over by Woodrow Wilson on Delmas Avenue and you'd go down there....

PVS In San Jose?

SS about 8:00 in the morning and you'd stay all day waiting to get in -- in a court! -- to play and then you'd walk home because they didn't have buses and things in those days. They had the trolleys, just like we have here.

PVS Yes.

SS Yes, it's very familiar. And we would just walk home and we walked to school. When I moved to San Jose a year later, I went to Lowell School in the sixth grade.

PVS Where do you \_\_\_\_\_ that?

SS I don't know if Lowell School is still there or not. It was about 1931 and it was on Seventh and Market.

PVS           Okay, yes.

SS           And I went to Lowell School there for the year and I enjoyed that; it was much different than our Catholic school. Then from there I graduated in the sixth grade and went over to Woodrow Wilson Junior High School. They only had in those days two junior high schools, Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, and depended upon where you lived where you went and so I went to Woodrow Wilson and went there my three years from the seventh, eighth and ninth grades. I was in lots of plays and loved to act in those days; sometimes I think I would have liked to have been a talk show host if I'd had my chance (laughter). Anyhow, from there I went to the only high school in town which was San Jose High School and, you know, we didn't mind. It was falling apart, in fact, you'd stand upstairs on a football day and do a loud yell, Rah Rah Rah you know, and stamp your feet and the plaster would fall down below. And then one time as we walked to school -- I lived on Eleventh Street, Eleventh somewhere around, oh it would be around Martha, and it's not there now -- and as we walked we would gather more kids and more going to school. Well one day we were walking to school and were almost about eight blocks from the school when lo and behold some girl came running back and saying "The school's on fire" and so everybody of course ran to

the school and the whole middle of school, the auditorium, was on fire and burned to the ground and so that day we were let out of school but we were back to school the next day and we never did have that ever rebuilt and so one part of the school was on one side, because the auditorium was in the middle and it was a very large auditorium, and the other part of the school was on the other side. But you know, we didn't seem to mind; you just took things as they were, you didn't worry about that it wasn't a beautiful school. There was a lot of class spirit so it was not how wonderful your school was, it was just who you met and your friends and we had our athletics and I was in \_\_\_\_\_ and got my block and I mostly played tennis and badminton.

PVS           What does getting a block mean?

SS           Well, you got your block, which was your SJ and your stars and your stripes, just like the boys did.

PVS           Like football letters?

SS           It's like a football letter but the girls got it. It was the GAL, the Girls Athletic League, and we played all the various high schools around, just like the boys did only we played girls, and it was very different like when you

played basketball you didn't play the whole course, you were in the middle. It was divided in three sections so that was different but the rest of it was, you know, girls faced all girls, things of that sort. And they had all kinds of things of that sort which kept you busy and again I did some dramatics and was in Mask & Scroll and Torch & Laurel. Mask & Scroll was the honorary society for the acting, Drama Department, and then Torch & Laurel was your Education. And we had a wonderful Dean of Girls who was Cecilia O'Neil. One time much later, I would say about 30 years later when she was quite an elderly woman, she was still Dean of Girls and we had a Torch & Laurel banquet and she stood up and named off all of the girls going back to 1913, and this was about 1955. You know, there weren't too many 1913's but she knew everybody, what they did, and even knew some of the things that they were doing at that time such as \_\_\_\_\_ police work at that time and she told all about -- I was surprised she even knew that, you know. But she was a wonderful old lady and she also taught athletics in those days; she was a coach of some sort. Then I went on to San Jose State and majored in Social Service. We were a new type of school in that day in social service because it was the beginning of a degree in Social Work. And so we started a Social Workers Club in college and then went on to graduate in Psychology/Social Service. In college

I was in Orchsis, which was the dance society.

PVS        A dance society?

SS         Modern dance.

PVS        Oh, okay.

SS         A modern dance society and that was an honorary thing also and then I graduated from there. I'll backtrack a little bit so that you know that we didn't get grants in those days, we worked to go to college and so a great many of the college people from all over worked in the canneries and so I had a neighbor who was head of the cannery of Barron and Gray, well she wasn't head but she was a head forelady, I guess you would call her. So I got a job with her and during the early part of the summer as a volunteer I would go to the YWCA Girl Reserve Camp and be a counselor and then she would send me a note at the camp and say, "It's time to come back", because I did only the peaches and I'd slice the peaches (laughter). And so I would come back and work until school started. We got all of 33 cents an hour at that time and we thought that was big money and it was because that was the fastest way you could make money to go to school without working all year round and so a great many

people came from all around. In fact, there was one young fellow who came from Southern California and he became a doctor; he came every year for six years, I guess, to work there and I think he lived on tuna fish and peanut butter (laughter) but he became a famous, well-known doctor in Southern California.

PVS How wonderful. Do you remember his name?

SS I don't remember his name except the first name and so, you know, everybody either goes by their first name or their last name (laughter). But I don't recall his name but I do remember them telling me that he had become a well-known doctor in Southern California.

PVS (Laughter) What was it like working in the canneries? What did you do there? How did it work?

SS Oh, well you came early in the morning, like about 6:30 in the morning because I started by slicing peaches so that the canners could can the peaches.

PVS Oh I see.

SS The men were behind on a belt and they sent it down and there were two girls on the peach slicer and we sliced



peaches, running it to a -- well, I can't describe it, it was a big machine that shook up and down (laughter) -- and then they went to slices, the peaches; you had to hold your hand so that they were straight and they were sliced correctly and they went into a big barrel and were carted off to the rest of the people. And it was really kind of fun, you wore a uniform and a cap and an apron.

PVS        Was it very sanitary?

SS        It was very sanitary, you had rubber gloves and some people she would make you put a net on. I usually braided my hair in those days so I never wore a net but you always had to wear a cap. That was your uniform, you had a cap and a special knife and you paid for all these things yourself. I never worked in the cutting area, it was always in the canning and the peach area. One time our belt broke and so to keep us going she put me on what they called the Cocktail Belt (laughter by PVS) and the cocktail belt had everything on it like what you get in the can like peaches, pears, cherries, etc. and you had to pick off the broken things and the ones with the stems, etc. Well that thing always made me so sick to my stomach that I really could go cause it just went sliding right by you, you know.

PVS           Very quickly.

SS           And I was used to the jumping and so it made me sick so I rarely ever went on back. But it was fun because it was hard work but it was fun, you know, your friends were there. I remember at noontime one time I rushed downtown because I wanted to get a record that I wanted and had no place to put it so the lady put it in her locker for me till afterwards and then we all played the record so it was hard work but the kids took it in stride, I think. And you know actually that kind of helped me later on because when I was working with a lot of these people I had experienced the same kind of work that they were doing and so I could feel a friendship toward them and in fact sometimes I would tell them, "Why don't you go try the cannery", when they were on welfare, you know, "Why don't you go try some of these things, I did it myself", and when they found that I had done it, because they always kind of looked at me as a police officer as someone a little bit above them or had more knowledge than they did. And so if I could do it, maybe they could do it and sometimes they would come back and say, "Hey, I'm working in the cannery now." (Chuckle) And they enjoyed it, it wasn't as much as they thought it would be. It would be a terrible towering thing, which it was. Well, when you were young like that, sometimes on

weekends after you've worked all day you go over to Santa Cruz to the boardwalk and you go to the dance in the Cocoanut Grove (laughter). Now I would think gee that's terrible, those poor kids (laughter) being my age (laughter).

PVS       What hours and what days did you work?

SS        Well, we worked six days a week.

PVS       You did!

SS        And we worked....

PVS       Long hours?

SS        Long hours, well actually most of them worked eight hours but because I was on this peach-cutting machine I worked longer. And so you were tired but it was a different kind of tiredness, when you were through you relaxed and it would be where you went home, cleaned up and we were off by 6:30 - 7 o'clock so from 6:30 to 6:30 maybe.

PVS       Oh, that's a long day.

SS        It's a long day and you made lots of money so you didn't

really....

PVS Mind (chuckling).

SS Mind and besides I was getting 33 cents an hour. If I were doing piece work, I was probably getting 25 cents an hour because you're much slower doing piece work. And then the canneries started having the unions come in. Well I wasn't there except for one year, I think, when the unions came in.

PVS How did it change the way things were done?

SS I think it changed a lot because they didn't have so many younger people, they were all year round, the stable kind of person who worked all the time and could work later in the season.

PVS Oh I see.

SS And so it was harder and of course your salary went up.

PVS Sure (chuckling).

SS So I don't know too much about when the unions came in and stuff but they did come in toward the end and

everybody had to pay union dues.

PVS Right, so you paid union dues too that year?

SS I paid the union dues \_\_\_\_\_. I really worked during the summer so in only one year it was maybe like three, six weeks, seven weeks or something like that that I was really in the union in the cannery so I can't say too much about the -- except it did change the feeling, it was an older group than the college group.

PVS Right. Wow! What an experience.

SS Yeah, it was.

PVS So it afforded you -- you were able to support yourself all the way through college then through that work?

SS Well, it helped my family, you know, my mother and father.

PVS What did your father do?

SS Well my father was a kind of a self-made man. When he was a younger person, like almost 14 or so, he left home and his father was -- I don't know, there must have been

some argument or something, never really came out -- but his father was a businessman and well thought of and he was the mayor in LaSalle, Illinois and I guess from what i recall that every Sunday they went for a buggy ride around town so they must have had something but I never knew them, they died when he was about 17 or 18. And so he went on to become a mechanical engineer and went through apprenticeship and then on to the ranks of how you become the \_\_\_\_\_ ranks until he was a full-fledged engineer also going to sides on the way, stopping to go to colleges here and there. And then he ended up by being a mechanical engineering professor at University of Santa Clara and then just before he died he started the Mechanical Engineering Department at Loyola University in Inglewood, California. So he went by his own bootstraps really, pulled himself together and became -- I guess in those days that's what most people did, they didn't go to a....

PVS        Formal education.

SS        A formal education and so his education was mostly by going to different mechanical schools that maybe might last for six months or six weeks or so on and then going up to the apprentices courses.

PVS Right and learning on the job.

SS And learning on the job. He was also a wildcat, in his young days he was a wildcat oil driller. And he said he knew Pancho Villa, he and Pancho Villa, and talked about him at times; he seemed to kind of like Pancho Villa, I thought (laughter). I'm not sure.

PVS Did he tell you any stories about him?

SS No, well he may have but it's been a long time and I don't remember except that he remembers him coming to the town and shooting it up when he was in the town and they were young kids themselves, about 17 or 18 themselves, and just on the other side of Mexico when they were working in Texas and so he knew a lot of people that way. Well, getting back to me, after....

PVS Okay, well you graduated from college, from San Jose State.

SS Well I graduated from college and to become a social worker you have to take an examination, you know the county exam, and so I took the county exam and then while I was waiting to be called I went during the summertime to the IBM school in San Francisco and learned the IBM

machines and just before -- in those days when you finished the course you had a job, you went with the machine. Well just before I finished the course I was called to the Social Service Department and so I became a social worker for Santa Clara County. At that time Laura Zora Fittinghoff was the head of the Social Service Department in Santa Clara County. She was a Quaker and so she never liked the idea that you got a lot of money so (laughter) I started out and I was young looking at that time, being still 21, and so she said she would hire me but she would hire me on the idea that I would work for one month to see how I did.

PVS        On trial?

SS         And so I worked for one month without pay.

PVS        Wow!

SS         (Laughter) Which you would not do in this day and age. Anyhow I had to work for one month without pay to show that I was old enough and could handle the job and because of being short and being young looking it was difficult, you know. And so they found that I could handle the job very well and so the next month I got a hundred dollars and so the next year I got a five dollar



raise and got \$105.00. This was back in 1942 and then the war came in 1943 and so my husband, who also I had met when I was doing field work, Robert Sullivan, and he was a social worker. And so he went and joined the Red Cross and so when he came back to Camp Roberts we were married and I moved to the area of Atascadero and Paso Robles during the war and later on to Grass Valley at the end of the war and then back to San Jose. And during that time I had Susan, and my oldest daughter, and then when we came back he joined the Juvenile Probation Department as a Probation Officer and then I had Barbara Lee. Well about that time, we found that he had extremely high blood pressure connected with kidneys and so he went to the University of California and of course we knew that we were living day by day at that time so I decided that if something was going to happen I should go back to school and see if I could further my education. And so i had Barbara Lee and Susan home, Barbara was two years old and Susan was five when Robert died.

PVS Oh, they were so young.

SS Yes, and I had gone back to school in 1951 when the....

PVS I'm sorry. (Recorder is turned off here.) Okay.

SS           And in 1951 I entered the university, which had been a university of San Jose State College, in the Psychology Department.

PVS           I see and you already had a Bachelor's Degree in Social Service.

SS           I already had a Bachelor's Degree in Social Service and I thought I would rather go on into counseling or into some kind of psychiatric work and so I went to the university -- I'm probably talking too much.

PVS           No, not at all. This is wonderful.

SS           And so in 1951 I entered the university as a psychology major in the Masters Program and then completed my psychologist credential there and a few more classes and I never went back to write a thesis because I just never had time when I was younger because Robert had died while I was -- in fact I was at a class when he had his stroke and he died the next day. So anyhow, I never completed the courses but i have enough -- in fact, one person told me if I wanted to they would give me the masters because I was now considered a specialist in the field (chuckling) and I had done quite a bit of outside work in psychology and taken a lot of classes during my police

work. So then I had these two small children and I went back and became a social worker at the County Welfare Department and then I found -- this was in October of 1951 -- and then I found that there was going to be a juvenile officer opening for a woman in the Police Department and so I thought well gee that would be a nice thing for me to do and some of my friends encouraged me to take the examination because they knew I liked police work. During my college days as an extra course I took Criminal Investigation and they didn't have women in the Police Department then but I got a special permission to take that because I needed a credit and so they said, "Why don't you take this course, they'll let you in." So I took it and my husband was a Probation Officer and of course I knew some probation officers to have been around the field and so I was interested in doing more than just social work and so I took the examination, which was a very cold December evening, after work in a very cold building in the basement, I think, and there were about 10 - 12 people taking the exam.

PVS        Were you the only woman?

SS         No, they were all women.

PVS        Oh, they were.

SS           It was for a woman's position and you see in those days the female juvenile officer had to have a college degree. Nobody else in the department had to have a college degree just the female juvenile officer.

PVS          But the male juvenile officers did not require a degree there?

SS           No, they didn't because they came through the ranks, I guess and they didn't even need to have the degree to become a police officer, but now that has all changed and almost all your police officers in San Jose have degrees. Anyway, so I passed it and became a juvenile officer. At that time the Juvenile Bureau was kind of like a counseling agency of children who became problem children and who also were involved in criminal activity so it was a good place for me to be because there was a lot of counseling. The only thing is that the woman and Chief Juvenile Officer was also the secretary, the file clerk and answered the phone, you sat in the office until somebody could relieve you to run out to do all your business. Then finally after about two years they got a part-time secretary which let me go out a lot more and then after that I was out almost three quarters of the time. We investigated cases and just the same as the Detective Bureau would do; we were part of the Detective

Bureau, and then we had a sargent over us and there were -- I'll name them. When I came in there was: J. R. Blackmore was the Chief of Police, Joe Carter was the Assistant Chief of Police, My chief was Captain Collins at that time who was later Chief of Detectives -- he was head of the Detective Bureau but the title changed to Chief of Detectives. Lieutenant MacKenzie was in the Detective Bureau and he was Vice and Narcotics mostly. And then in my bureau there was Sargent Leon Green who was the head of our part, the juvenile officers. And then there was Herbie Miller who was a Sargent and he was Traffic, the school traffic, he had charge of all the school traffic children -- you know, you see them, the crossing guards.

PVS            Oh yes.

SS            He was in charge of that and then there was Lieutenant Peterson, who was not a lieutenant in those days, and Chuck Schaeffer, who was a Police Officer. Peterson and Chuck Schaeffer were Police Officers but they had been transferred to the Juvenile Bureau. And then there was Peter Guerin who was a Juvenile Officer -- how he became a Juvenile Officer I don't know. Then later there was Bob Cleary who came in and Peterson left and Chuck Schaeffer left and Chuck went back to patrol and Peterson

went on to the Detective Bureau and then Johnny Matteran came in as a Juvenile Officer and that was, with myself, that was the Juvenile Bureau.

PVS        Okay, now what all did you do?

SS        They called me "the Social Worker Cop" actually. My job was to interview and talk with all the girls who were either booked into Juvenile Hall or brought in to the Police Department or that I picked up myself.

PVS        Okay, you actually went out and made arrests?

SS        I went out, most of the time I was out as time went on. After the first three or four years I was out almost all the time doing my own picking up but there were always times at nighttime when they would be booked into the Hall or there were problems or in the daytime when I was busy they would be picking up somebody and bringing them in or I would meet an officer in the field to assist him or he would assist me in whatever was going on. And most of my work was always with the girls and they were always involved in something in the way, most of the girls were around 14 - 15 years old and most of them were involved in petty theft and malicious mischief, beyond control -- what we call "beyond control", staying out all night,

running away, too much boyfriends, drinking, drugs, something of that sort, that was what was called beyond control. And then I had almost all of the child beating, child abuse and a good deal of sexual abuse and the young girls involved in statutory rape and things of that sort. So that was my job.

PVS        Wow! (Laughter) Were there very many women doing this kind of thing at that time?

SS        No, I was the only woman doing work in the Juvenile Bureau. The other women, there were women and they were the matrons and doing mostly matron work at that time.

PVS        Okay, now what did matrons do?

SS        The matron work was feeding the prisoners, going out to accompany them if there was male officers and they would have a female officer take them to the court and take them to the jail. At that time our jail was in our City Hall, which was the jail at the bottom, and the City Hall was downtown and the jail was in the basement and that was at the old building, I think it was very very old, and it was at San Antonio and Market, right in the middle of San Antonio and Market, and it was all made of brick and some time back in the 1900's and '14's or something

like that, it was three stories. The elevator went out so you walked and the bathroom was on the second floor and you had to go up outside of the -- well downstairs was like a big tunnel and off of the tunnel were the different departments and you could drive under the tunnel with the paddy wagon and go through the tunnel to the other side and then the whole department was in the basement and you had to come down, if you came down the stairs where we were -- we were on the north side, and you came downstairs about 12 stairs and into our bureau which was one room -- both rooms were about this size.

PVS           About 12 x 12 feet, I believe.

SS           Yes and we had big desks. There were two rooms, one where the captain was mostly only he was then a sargent, and sometimes you had to ask him to leave so you could go in and interrogate (laughter) or there were so many people around that everybody left. Sometimes, you know, in girl fights you had maybe two girls and it ended up being 15, 20, 25 all involved. And they were maybe two girls fighting but it all became a big gang affair. And so all the kids were brought to the Juvenile Bureau and outside of the Juvenile Bureau, downstairs, was the jail, as I told you and they had the men's jail and the women's jail and at the beginning on the west side was the



Chief's office, that's where Blackmore -- and Janet Hickey was a policewoman and she was a secretary then at that time -- and then across the way was the desk and the files and the policewomen worked in there, the matrons -- they were called matron clerks at that time -- and they worked in there doing the filing and so on and then when there was a woman's problem then they would go out with the officer to bring 'em in. They didn't investigate, they just did the matroning. And so they were fed at the jail so right outside the bureau, the Juvenile Bureau, were these two huge, very huge -- I would say they were about 7 x 7 -- garbage cans and they had no lids on them so you went by there and there was always this big smell that you would smell as you went by into our bureau (laughter), lovely. Anyhow, that's where they kept the garbage cans.

PVS        Oh great    (more laughter).    Would you hold just one moment.

End of Side 1, Tape 1.

Side 2, Tape 1.

SS        \*\*    ....that's how I knew was a matron clerk that I can recall was Peggy Donald, Iona Rossi, Denise Sadler and

there was one named \*\* Frances and I can't remember her last name; she was an older person. And let's see who else. And then two of the girls who went on were: Shirley Peterson was telephone operator and Betty Cunningham was a telephone operator. Then there were a couple of men telephone operators.

PVS        There were! (chuckle)

SS        And there were more but these are the ones that I can recall at this time. Oh gee, there weren't too awfully many. If I think of somebody I'll let you know (laughter). But those were the main ones that were always there and they rotated, they worked all the way around the clock. They wore uniforms, yes. I always wore plain clothes.

PVS        Oh you did?

SS        I never wore a uniform and Janet Hickey, who was policewoman, didn't wear a uniform either. Now these are not the very first clerks because I wasn't there when the whole Police Department started but these are just the ones that I recall myself. Then we moved from the Juvenile Bureau and City Hall was torn down and we went to the new City Hall with all the glass and lo and behold

the Juvenile Bureau was like, I used to call it, the Black Hole of Calcutta (laughter from PVS) because we were inside with no windows. And so we had several little rooms, however; we had the captain's room and the main room, the entrance room, and then one, two, three, four interrogation rooms so that made it a lot better.

PVS Oh yes, instead of only two rooms.

SS And so it was much much better but these were all small rooms also and, as I say, we were inside so you never saw all this beautiful outside. Then we were sort of the middle, the downstairs of the City Hall was the Police Department, the first floor -- the whole first floor was the Police Department and they did not have any jailing there; you went to the County Jail which was where it is now. Then of course the Juvenile Probation Department was down on St. James and Market so we had to take them to St. James and Market. And then they built the new Juvenile Probation Department out with all the county town sites and it's now out where all the county projects are and a very nice Juvenile Hall and so it was much closer to cart those that \_\_\_\_\_.

PVS Yes definitely. Did you have a lot of juvenile crime back then?

SS           There was always malicious mischief and beyond control and things of that sort. When I first started, I would say there were about 6 to 10 girls that were involved in drugs and those would be hard drugs like heroin.

PVS          This was back in the early fifty's.

SS           Back in the fifty's, early fifty's, then along came O'Leary.

PVS          Uh huh, Timothy Leary?

SS           Timothy Leary and the Beatles and the rock and roll and the drugs became rampant. At these rock and roll concerts they would throw out the drugs and kids would pick 'em up and take 'em, they didn't know what they were taking. And so there was a lot more drug involvement along that line. And when I first started if a police officer said, "Get in the car" you got in the car. Then came the rebellion of the juveniles and then you recall the "pig", I was always being called a pig or "that old lady." At that time I guess I was about 40. I thought gee I'm not that old yet. But anyway, then pretty soon you did think you were pretty old (laughter). Anyway, then we moved from there to -- they built the police building where it is now in San Jose on Guadalupe and so

then we moved over there and our Juvenile Bureau was on the third floor and we had one big room and two small rooms for the Lieutenant and the Captain and then some smaller rooms, which were about 8 x 9 or 8 x 8, something like that, that were the interrogation rooms and there were four or five of those.

PVS        Oh gosh, so it's really growing.

SS        So it was much much better and much more private to be able to interrogate somebody than sitting at your desk and talking to somebody and this is what you did when you first started. There was no place to go so the room could be full and you're trying to talk to somebody which was very difficult and not private and particularly law officers, you do a lot of counseling and interrogation of what's going on in the family. For instance, you pick somebody up for petty theft, well petty theft to me was always like a symptom, it's a cold, it could even go into pneumonia or just be a cold and this is the same thing with petty theft. It's either a very minor family problem or there's a terrific family problem and the only way you talk about it is to talk to the kids and I was always one of these people that said, "Talk to the kid, don't talk to the mother until you've talked to the kid", because the mother and father have always covered

everything up anyway. And I can remember one time when I was all ready to release this girl and then her father came in and all of a sudden she got fits, you know, and kind of belligerent and she started yelling back and forth at him and so I thought well sit down, young lady, we're going to get to the bottom of this. Turned out to be that her father was molesting her and this is how it came out with that, by talking to the young lady, because her father said, "No, I didn't molest you, I only taught you what you had to know", you see. A lot of men have the idea that you teach your children these things by this and especially girls, at least that's the excuse for it. And we had quite a bit of incest, things like that come out at this time. I guess in counseling you get kind of a reputation too and I can remember the time this little girl came in with her mother, she was only about seven, and her mother said, "Now I want you to talk to her and tell her she can't steal." And I said, "Well you know, we're not here to scare children but I'll talk to her and so I did and I sat down and I talked to the little girl away from her mother and you know what? This young little girl, seven years old, had for at least three years thought she had killed her sister.

PVS

Oh! \_\_\_\_\_.

SS           Because she had a bad cold, the little girl had a bad cold, and the mother had said, "Now you stay away from your sister because you're going to give her a cold and she could die." Well the little child caught a cold and she turned into pneumonia and she died and all these years this little girl thought she had killed her sister.

PVS          Oh, how sad. You must have really seen a lot of....

SS           Well, so you see a lot of things that you don't really look for and all of a sudden they're there, you see.

PVS          They come out, right.

SS           And they come out, either molesting or a drinking problem of the family or child beating. I did a very very great amount of trying to teach people about child abuse. It was something really that has gone on for thousands of years and for a good many, many, many years a child was always considered a property of a family; they could do what they wanted to this kid because it was their property. Especially foreigners have this idea and not (tape recorder is turned off here) you know, not so much European foreigners, but they had the idea that this is their property so they could do what they wanted. You could beat it up if you wanted to. And so teaching

people by making speeches, mostly by making speeches, and then they sometimes would have me go into the high school. Somebody would say, "Will you make a speech at the high school." So I would talk on child abuse because they all knew what a problem was, what petty theft was, what this was and so on, but when you graduate from high school many don't go on to college or don't get involved in this kind of work and so then the high school seniors were a good place to talk about child abuse because they learned what the situation was, how they themselves could be involved in child abuse from being abused themselves because child abuse sort of takes a circle. You're a child abuser and you become a child abuser and it just goes on around as a circle. And so we talked about that a good deal in the high school.

PVS           Is that a project that you started or you initiated?

SS           Yes, I initiated that and I initiated a lot of child abuse. One time I had to talk, I was always making speeches it seemed to me, at mostly night time (chuckle) they never seemed to be in the day time. But anyway I used make speeches and one time I had to talk to The Daughters of the American Revolution, well I thought these people aren't going to be interested in juvenile delinquents, they're all 70, 80 years old. And about



that time we were having quite a number of older women being molested and raped by people going to the houses and giving them false information. They'd let them in the house and then something would happen to them and so I thought, well I'm going to talk about protection for women and so i did and that became such a popular subject for a speech that I talked every place until I had to finally turn a lot of it over to our own department where we had that type of thing going on where they just started a bureau for speeches and for communication to the public. I kept what I could and I made speeches when I had the time but I did like to talk about child abuse because it was such a new kind of subject to people because when I first started one of my first cases was a little child, some grandparents had come up from down South and had seen this child in the room and crawling on the floor and she couldn't get in. So we went out there and it was a mentally retarded child and so they had kept it in this small little room with no diaper, nothing, the child must have been five to seven years old, I can't recall, but it was not a baby, and it could not walk, it had spindly legs, it was so weak that it couldn't walk, the stomach was protruding like you see the African children, the bloated stomach. And the woman in charge was not the mother, she was being paid to take care of the child, she gave it one can of baby food a day and

that was how it was being fed. So that was one kind of abuse. Another one that I always like to recall is because of the fact it's a volunteer. And this woman burned her little five year old because she wet her pants before she came home from school, on the way home from school; I guess she did that quite a bit so she's teaching her a lesson and sat her in a pot of boiling water. And when we got the child she had a, oh it looked like about an inch of burn in her bottom in a circle where she was sitting in the pot. And took the child to the hospital and because the mother was being booked and was not a fit mother anyway, we knew she would not be coming to the hospital to talk with the child and there was not too much of a family otherwise and so I got hold of one of the volunteers -- what do you call 'em, the Pink Ladies?

PVS        Oh, yes.

SS        And the head of the Pink Ladies and told her what the situation was. So she got hold of her people and they took care of this little girl, reading stories and so on and just being kind, and the doctor said as a result the child recovered much faster than he thought she would recover. But this was done just by people in the community.

PVS Oh how wonderful.

SS You know, you don't have to go to Africa (laughter) or any place else, if you have enough volunteers around and enough problems around that you can volunteer your services any place, like the grandmothers and so on in the Juvenile Hall and the Juvenile Shelter. Also along the line, when they built the Juvenile Hall they built a Juvenile Shelter out around Tenth Street.

PVS Oh they did.

SS And it's still there, it's Tenth and oh, I can't remember, it's way out past here down the street here from where we are and it was a nice shelter, became not big enough after a while because there were so many people that it was always filling up, but it had its own rooms and its own dormitories where before we always took them to private people and they had, especially some kind people, that's all they would do was take in maybe 10, 15 small children, tiny babies even, but they were all cramped in these houses and so it became just too much and it was an insurance problem, I think, to have to worry about that and they built the shelter which you see out there. And it's a nice shelter and staffed by Loretta Gullic, who was also known as Chub, you want to

write that down, the head of the Children's Shelter.

PVS        Okay, Loretta Gullic.

SS        Gullic, G-u-l-l-i-c.    She at one time worked at the Juvenile Probation Department at the hall part and she was head of the hall and then she went to the Children's Shelter.    And during this time also they built the women's, not the women's but the Girls', Ranch.

PVS        Oh, now what is that?

SS        The Girls' Ranch is just like the Boys' Ranch.    If you're a bigger problem than Juvenile Hall and are going to stay for a longer period of time you go to the ranch.    It's out on Santa Teresa in that area and there's a Girls' Ranch and mostly it's not really a ranch, it's just a big nice building where they are confined and they stay there for six months to a year.

PVS        Oh I see, serving out a sentence or what have you.

SS        Yes, uh huh.    And that was one way rather than staying in Juvenile Hall for six months to a year you could transfer there and most of those girls where really beyond control and problem child, like that.    After many years they

decided that instead of booking people for beyond control, which I thought was not a good idea because a good many of these childrn that you booked for beyond control were mother problems or family problems. The children weren't beyond control, the family was beyond control (chuckle) but because of the problem in the family you took the child. And so they have these shelters now, I guess, all around which are really individual homes and San Francisco, I think, started them and then we had them and when you had a child that would run away it had some place to go. So they had those and throughout the years things have changed. The juvenile justice system gives the police officers several types of ways, three types of ways, of dealing with a child. You either on the first offense or minor offense, or maybe two or three minor offenses, the police can handle it by talking with the parents and the child and seeing what the terrific problem is or if it isn't a terrific problem. Just as I say, it can either be a cold or pneumonia.

PVS           Right (chuckles).

SS           And then the other thing is that you can cite them into Juvenile Probation Department. If you feel there's a little bit more to it or the child is getting into too

much trouble and the parent is not there half the time or the parent is too busy or does not understand the situation or you can't work with them, you cite them into Juvenile Probation Department. Or if it's a very serious crime or a parole violation or probation violation, you book them into Juvenile Hall. With the children's shelter it's always the parent because the parent's being picked up for other kind of violations and you put the child....

PVS He needs to be cared for?

SS Into the shelter to be cared for whether it's a child abuse or a drunk mother or a mother going into jail or a father going to jail or family problems so severe that they can't be handled any other way, then you book the child. Or in some instances if there is real consideration and thoughtfulness by a grandparent or someone in the family, you can release the child to them with the idea that they will report to the Probation Department. So that was the way we could handle the things. When I first started in I started by -- it was malicious mischief. You know how children are always writing on walls....

PVS Yeah (laughter).

SS           and they're covering up the -- which we don't have very many of now -- bathrooms? (Laughter) They would write all over the bathroom or all over the walls, either their name or some special kind of name, and so we would get the parents in and the kids and say, with the consent of the owner, "Clean this wall up."

PVS           You would! You'd make them.

SS           And that's what I did a lot and then some of the other people objected to that because the union didn't like it for one thing (laughter), at least that's what I was told. Whether it was this particular person that didn't like it or not saying he was union because he wanted the paint job, but anyway I can't remember what his name was but we stopped that and didn't do it because the insurance and so on. But that worked, that worked; you didn't have them going back and....

PVS           And doing it again.

SS           And cleaning up the subways, we cleaned the subways up. With the words, you know, they'd go with their paint cans and so on and that was something that worked as far as I was concerned. They had to do it themselves and they didn't go back and spray because it took 'em time to do

that. Then on a Saturday when you could be doing a lot of other things. But it was a rewarding experience for me, I enjoyed the work. Everything was different, everything was the same I mean. You'd have petty theft but because it was an individual and their character's different, the family's different, everybody's different, it was a different thing altogether. Maybe one thing you would handle one way, another thing you would handle another way.

PVS And you had the responsibility.

SS You had the leeway and you had the responsibility. Just as in a child abuse case you have the responsibility, you as a police officer must do something at that time. Whereas a social worker, a neighbor, somebody else can look at it and doesn't have to do anything that time but as a police officer you have to make a decision in one minute.

PVS Wow, you have to.

SS I mean, you are making a decision and you have to be right and so it's a difficult thing sometimes to make a decision and hope you are right (laughter). But it's something that has to be done right then, it can't be



something that you can say, "Well I'll come back in three or four days." It's something you have to do and so maybe you don't feel that it's necessary to do anything really at that time, that you can talk about it and find that the person has knowledge themselves of what they're doing and maybe wanting to correct it or maybe they are under some kind of supervision or medication or something of that sort where they're handling the situation themselves. The Juvenile Officer is involved in many types of agencies. I can remember when one time I went to -- not very often did I do this, I never had the time -- but I was asked to go and so I did go to this one agency meeting who had a meeting on a family. Well I tell you, there must have been 12 different agencies involved. You had the Health Department, you had the school nurse, you had the teacher, you had the counselor, you had the social worker, you had the probation officer, you had a parole officer, you had the police; I mean, it just went on and on and on. And all these people involved in one family.

PVS        That's amazing.

SS        Yes, so you see you have to work with agencies.

PVS        Yes, I was gonna say, how did that many different groups

come to a consensus of what to do for the family?

SS Well, then everybody told what they were doing and what they thought while before everybody was handling one person maybe. See there might have been somebody on parole, somebody on probation, somebody in jail and yet everybody was singly handling these things instead of handling it as a group or coordinating their efforts; it turned out a lot different and then you saw a whole different picture of this family. So it was good to work with agencies and I think this is what the police does. In fact, I always thought of the police really as a first aid station. If people didn't know where to go, they went to the police.

PVS They really did. That's great. Do you think that's still happening today?

SS I think so in one respect although people ask for help from the police. Now they probably don't like to be arrested by the police but they want some help and they know that the police can guide them into different agencies if they can't help them, you see. Just like when they would come to me or they would call me and I could say, "No, I can't help you but I want you to go...." and I would know the agency I wanted them to go

to or the person I wanted them to talk to and in that respect they could be helped. We would get letters from girls asking us to help other girls and not wanting to say their name (laughter by PVS) but saying this is the situation, or families or people and of course you get a lot of calls from people who don't want to be known and they'll say this and this and this is going on and of course you're gonna have to go out and find out if this is going on.

PVS Right, it's all anonymous tips.

SS And sometimes it isn't going on but most of the times it is and if you didn't go you wouldn't know it. So it's kind of a first aid station, they don't know where to go so they call up and just the same as they call up for directions as to, "Where is the firehouse" or "Where is the hospital" or something of that sort. But most of the time when they're calling it's for advice in the Juvenile Bureau. There was a lot of counseling done by the officers.

PVS (Answer inaudible)

SS I still say it was kind of like a first aid station. If they didn't know who else to call, they called the

police. (Laughter)

PVS Wonderful, well at least they called for help and that's the important thing.

SS This is what I would tell my people when we went on to talk on child abuse, that the child can't call but they have a cry and that's their cry for help.

PVS Yes, oh so sad. Have you kept track of any of the children or the young people that you....?

SS Well I'm not in town anymore but when I retired I got a few letters and calls. In fact, one girl came in and she had been quite a problem to her mother because she had moved from back east and she was still madly in love with her boyfriend back east so at the first aid station she came in, the girl, to talk to beyond control. And so it was a matter of this kid, as far as I was concerned, back east that just had a hold on her and he was running around with everybody back east and she was just sincere about his love, you know. So I said, "Forget him," I said, "You're 150 miles away from him, maybe more than that, and you're giving him permission to go to a prom with some other girl and he's not even saying you can go out with anybody." I said, "Stop and think, smell the

roses, you're young, you're 17." And so one day she came in all by herself and she says, "Sargent Sullivan", she says, "I got a new boyfriend." (Laughter) Then sometimes some of the older women who I had when they were girls it was, "Gee, I wished I knew you when I was (laughter) when I was younger and paid attention to what you had to say." We'd get a lot of fighting and work with children because they would fight and instead of booking them -- I started this myself along with Dorothy Stevens at School Department who was what we used to call "whoopy cop" but they're called the School Counselors, and she was working when I was but she was a great help to me and she was really my great standby. So we worked together on this and we started going to the schools and contacting the principals, the principal would get hold of the person, we would know one name and they tried to get hold of some of the names when we got there, we could get more girls in, and sat there and talked to the whole group of girls rather than talk to this girl that fought and this girl that fought because it's always about five or ten other girls who are involved in the thing by the dirty looks you gave or somebody said that somebody said that somebody said and then you'd find out that nobody ever said that in the first place (laughter by PVS). Most of the girl fights start in the beginning of school when you want to be the superior person in the school and

then at the end of the school when school's closing and if you can get them then and straighten out the matter. Well quite often we would meet at the School Department, and then later at the Police Department when we had the new building, with the parents and the kids at that time. And they would come in and the parents, you would find that some of the parents were egging on the kids and the parents were as bad as the kids were, and so having started that sometimes I didn't have to go out because the principals took it over and they learned that if you got everybody in and then if it was such a problem then they would call in me or they would call in both Mrs. Stevens and myself and we'd go out, or Jeanette Bane(?) also works for the School Department, and Bob Campbell, Roy Bursch, all of those people. Delin Burella(?) was seeing the girls at Overfelt and we did a lot of work together and they had quite a time with Overfelt when they first started and it straightened the school out. They even had to put police there at the school for a while.

PVS        Well! Because of girls fighting?

SS         No, boys fighting.

PVS        Oh, boys fighting.

SS Well both.

PVS How did they stop it?

SS Well it just sort of worked itself out by these confrontations with the parents and the kids and then there would be a private -- with not the police itself but it would be somebody who would be chief, it was a police officer but he spoke privately on the grounds. But then when there was a fight or we heard there was going to be a fight we would show up en masse, the police officers, and park around the part that we heard there was going to be a fight so when they'd see my little blue car they knew Sargent Sullivan was around (laughter).

PVS They watched for you huh?

SS And being the only woman sargent and Juvenile Officer I think everybody knew me in town and so they'd holler, "Hi, Sargent Sullivan." Or else they wouldn't want me to talk to 'em at all if they were involved in something. I never knew whether to say hi or not to say hi (laughter). So it was that way all the time and I think I knew everybody from the lowest bar to the best bar in town (laughter). Sometimes at my time I would go out with the vice detail because it was something that I

tried to do once in a while, three or four times a year, so that I would know what they were talking about when they talked about some bar with kids and so that I knew the bar and knew what was going on there and soon as I'd show up immediately everybody's checking their ID's, you know, like they did it every night (laughter). And one time we had a police ball and they had Fats Domino. No, the policemen didn't have Fats Domino but they also had Fats Domino at another spot in town where the kids were dancing and there was a big riot over there and all the policemen had to leave the Policemen's Ball and go over to the riot. (Laughter) So the next time he came to town the Juvenile Officers, including myself and Sargent Sargent went over along with the ABC, that's Alcoholic Beverage and Control, and we went over there to make sure that they were checking ID's and that there was no liquor because that was the problem was the liquor. And I enjoyed Fats Domino but boy, he was a loud player (laughter); you could hardly hear yourself think in there. And everything was fine after we showed up, they knew we were there, it just turned into a different atmosphere and the kids enjoyed themselves. It was all ages, mostly older after 21, but some of the younger kids were there but they didn't drink, they could go in but they couldn't drink, and so they had a good time and we had a loud time, I think. Maybe that was part of my



hearing loss (laughter) all the rock concerts we had to go to (laughter). Well, that one was loud but I enjoyed it. Some of these things that you go to I worked with the Alcoholic Beverage and Control, I also worked with the State Narcotics Bureau and the FBI and all of the agencies and they are more or less the same, you've got to know the Probation and Parole, the California Youth Authority. When I first started Florence McKurcher was around and she was the Girls' Youth Authority Parole Officer. We used to have one girl that was quite a problem, in fact I first had her when she was about eight years old and she was breaking into the church's poor boxes, St. Joseph's especially. And then so finally she was so bad that she finally ended up in the Youth Authority and one time here on the television was what they described as this gorgeous girl -- she's not gorgeous at all (laughter) -- and she was up on top of some hotel doing the strip tease and threatening suicide.

PVS           That's a strange combination of things.

SS           So about the same time that I heard about it so did Florence McKurcher \*\*\* from the Youth Authority and that was her parolee and so she had to go up there and say, "This is my parolee", and she got her down. Anyhow, so she went on to the Youth Authority and the

next thing I knew she had struck a matron at Las Guillicas(?), which is the Youth Authority Detention Facility, and stabbed her and so she was out on the loose and I was driving downtown and I saw this girl going into, of all places, St. Joseph's Church to the poor boxes again and so I said, "There she is again." And so she was on the loose and I had called in and said that I'm going to follow her and would you please send someone to assist. And so she came out about that time and so lo and behold I was right there so I walked with her and so the officer who was coming was the slowest thing on two legs (laughter). Anyhow, by the time we got to First Street she knew that she was going in so she jumped me and she was quite a bit bigger than I was and we both ended up on the street. And so somebody was saying, "Look at that mother/daughter, they're beating each other up. (Laughter) Somebody from the jewelry store across the street came running over and pulled us apart and she just kept kickin' and screamin' and hollering till Sargent Wheatley came and we got her in the car and then took her to Juvenile Hall. And the next day she was pleading to go back to the Youth Authority and so we got another call from a car saying the car was being swayed back and forth and that a parole officer was in need of help. This girl had shackled the Sargent, knocked the car over by going from one side to the other and so we

had to help her, shackle her and get her so she could go back to the Youth Authority. Next time I heard about her, I happened to be at home watching the television and they were saying how this young lady, I won't mention her name, was back at Chicago and she had witnessed this big murder where this man had been murdering all these people in this Chicago park and so when they mentioned who she was then I called in my captain, I said to Chief Carlos, "This is this girl and I know her and I'm sure she hasn't witnessed a darn thing 'cause she makes things up and if she said she was in a private home because she was such a sweet young girl. And at that time she was a parolee in K.C. and so I called back to Chicago and told them about that and they found that this was not true, she had not witnessed anything and that if she had she must have been part of it herself. And then eventually, talking to Miss McKurcher recently, I asked her if she even knew what happened to her and she said she was released from parole and went back to New York and was killed in New York. Well, she was always into something.

PVS        Into violence.

SS        Into violence.    We have maybe four or five really terrific families like that where the whole family would be involved in something, not just one child but many

children.

PVS And the same thing on many problems?

SS Yeah.

PVS Awful. Hold on for one.... \*\*\*

End of Side 2, Tape 1.

Beginning of Side 1, Tape 2.

PVS Means trouble.

SS Yeah.

PVS Do they get into trouble together?

SS Well, now this particular family that I'm thinking of there was no father, the mother was mentally retarded, the daughter was mentally retarded and at that time she was in Porter Hospital and released and so you knew they were all more or less involved and not too....

PVS Mentally healthy.

SS

Mentally healthy. We knew this family very well in the Juvenile Bureau and one time a new police officer wanted to report and said, "I think someone should check on this family because it seems such a strange family." (Laughter) We took one look at the name (laughter) and knew who he was talking about. This was one of those families where everybody was involved; every agency in town, I think, was involved in this family. One of the boys finally ended up by hanging his -- well, in the first place he came up as a parole violater and then escaped, hitchhiked a ride up and somewhere around Paso Robles killed somebody that he was hitchhiking with, got put in jail in San Jose, and I believe at that same time he hung or somebody in the room with him in the jail got hung and he went on to prison and his other brother was the same type. His sister was a prostitute. They always used to say the young girl was not involved in anything, they were always concerned about the baby, the whole family was concerned about the baby that she be good but she turned into a drug addict. But she was a very pretty young girl. So you do have families where the whole family goes. And with all these agencies you'd think somebody could help 'em but they didn't get it. I used to say if you can help somebody before they're 15 you can help 'em; at 16 and over it's a very difficult thing to change.

PVS It really is, hmm.

SS They have to want to help themselves and a lot of them don't want to help themselves and this was not involved in drugs, this was just the family, the problem of the family. And if you can respect your parents and you can respect your teachers then you can respect yourself, but you can't respect yourself if you can't respect other people.

PVS That's true, that's true, wow.

SS Well shall we end it there? Do you want to go on?

PVS Well if you'd like.

SS I was on several boards if you want to know about that.

PVS Oh, I certainly would.

SS I was on Family Service Board for approximately six years. I liked the Family Service and I referred a lot of people to Family Service.

PVS Okay and so they were counseling their whole families?

SS           They were counseling, they counseled families and individuals both. And then I was on Health Care with the various agencies in town \_\_\_\_\_ the Protective Services for Adults and Protective Services for Children.

PVS          Oh okay, now what did those agencies do?

SS           Those are agencies that are involved such as the Welfare Department, Probation Department and the Police Department and Health Department and some of the private agencies around town and you could be thought of as whether you're adult or child. Whatever needs to be done they have someone to help them such as a social worker would sometimes call on us and I would be sort of a liaison officer to say well here's blank. One time the social worker went out to this house because the old lady would not answer the door and so we went out and I went out and we either talked to 'em trying to say the police are here which they might answer the door for 'em where they're afraid sometimes. Or sometimes we had to break the door open and some of them are mentally ill, either Alzheimers or some kind of senility of some sort. Or they are being held sort of captive in their own home.

PVS          Did you find that often?

SS Yes.

PVS You did!

SS Once in a while, not often but you did. And then there are a lot of old people who live by themselves that just become hermits and become very ill and we found that, and you had a lot of that. Now you don't have so much because you have a lot of agencies that are concerned with senior citizens where in those days you didn't. Unless it was the Welfare Department or the Police Department, you had nobody. A neighbor doesn't want to get involved and that's what you try to do, you try to get your neighbors involved by these features if nothing else to look out especially for children and older people.

PVS So you made a community effort.

SS It was a community effort and those things are still going on, those different agencies.

PVS Oh that's great, that's great. What a career you had and when did you retire?

SS I retired in 1976. I became a sargent in 1963 because at



that time all people in the Juvenile Bureau had to be sargents because we were going in as detectives and we were doing the same work as detectives except on the juvenile level. And so I took an exam at that time and became a sargent and then I retired in 1976.

PVS Oh okay, so in 1963 you became the first woman sargent.

SS Woman sargent in the San Jose Police Department.

PVS That's wonderful. How did that change what you did?

SS It really didn't change you, I still did the same thing; in fact, at one time they were going to blanket all the juvenile officers in and then the union kind of didn't like that (laughter) and well some of the juvenile officers became sargents and then when you had to be a sargent I could take the test and I took the test.

PVS That forced them to allow a woman to become a sargent.

SS To become a sargent. After that I probably could have taken a lieutenant exam and gone on but I had enough and I enjoyed counseling, plus the fact that I had my children and my children meant a good deal to me. And so I didn't join a lot of clubs and didn't do a lot of

things because my feeling is that if you're going to be a woman in work that you should pay attention to your family and this, I think, is not going on today. This I was very worried about when somebody asked me when I retired, "What would you like to pass on", and I said, "I would like to pass the word on that there are going to be a lot of women working but where are their children going to be. Whose gonna care for their children because you're gonna be so involved but you have to give time to your children." And I think a lot of women don't give time to their children. They think too much about going up higher and higher and higher and then the family is deteriorating. Or they become single mothers because they want to have a child but I wonder sometimes if they're thinking if this is an ego trip.

PVS        Are they thinking of the child.

SS        Are they thinking of the child and so on, especially some of the movie stars (laughter). Maybe other people but you hear about the movie stars. I said it's an ego trip and you're not thinking about the child and what's good for the child.

PVS        And you've seen the results of some of that in your work.

SS And my concern is for the child.

PVS Sure, you've seen what can happen when children are neglected.

SS I have seen a good many things happen. And another thing that you have to have when you're a police officer is a good sense of humor.

PVS Do you? (laughter).

SS You have to be able to laugh at yourself. You laugh at things that are not worth laughing at but if you don't you cry.

PVS Right, oh, yes. Well, thank you.

End of Side 1, Tape 2.

Nothing is recorded on Side 2, Tape 2.

(Transcriber's notes:

\*\* The portion of this transcription beginning at page 25, line 21, and ending at page 26, line 1, and marked at

each end by double asterisks, was missing from the duplicate tape. It has been transcribed from the Master Tape.

\*\*\* The portion of this transcription beginning at page 49, line 21, and ending at page 52, line 4, and marked at each end by triple asterisks, was missing from the duplicate tape. It has been transcribed from the Master Tape.)